

January 21, 1933

[Decatur, Alabama]

FDR Speech File

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT

DECATUR, ALABAMA

January 21, 1933

My friends, I am very glad to come here to Decatur. This is the first time in my life that I have seen this part of the State by daylight; I have gone through on other occasions at night.

I am tremendously impressed with this wonderful Tennessee Valley. I am very glad to have seen Muscle Shoals with my own eyes. I am glad because I have been reading so much about it for the past twelve or fourteen years but I knew that nothing had ever been done about it and I thought perhaps it was just a myth. (Laughter)

With the help of the Congress of the United States we are going to put Muscle Shoals and the Tennessee Valley back on the map of the United States. (Laughter)

About three weeks ago I left Albany and now, I understand, I am back in Albany. (Laughter) You know, I have very often heard of thousands of people but it is not often that you will see acres of people like there are here today.

I am very grateful to you who have come out and I hope to be able to come back here again soon, when conditions are better, and see you all again. (Prolonged applause)

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

This is a transcript made by the White House stenographer from his shorthand notes taken at the time the speech was made. Underlining indicates words extemporaneously added to the previously prepared reading copy text. Words in parentheses are words that were omitted when the speech was delivered, though they appear in the previously prepared reading copy text.

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